Dear Transportation Committee Members,

As Danbury residents, we are opposed to House Bill 6818, "An Act Concerning the Establishment of Electronic Tolls at the State's Borders." Border tolls will discriminate against Connecticut residents who live near a state line and cross over into neighboring states often, e.g., for work, to board trains, to commute to jobs in NYC, to visit family living in sister cities, etc. Additionally, border tolls will add to the congestion on local streets, as people exit the highway to avoid paying the toll and then reenter the highway at a point beyond the toll plaza.

In the Danbury area, Interstate-84 is already generally quite congested without tolls. The placement of a toll plaza at the border would generate extra funds for the state, but would almost certainly add congestion as cars slow down or stop to pay tolls. In addition, one would anticipate a further decline in air quality from the pollution generated by the exhausts of these idling cars.

We say "NO" to Border Tolls.

Sincerely,
Dr. Thomas and Ms. Linda MacGregor
Danbury, CT
trmacgregor@snet.net